



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

PIMA AGENCY

Post Office Box 8 - Sacaton, Arizona 85247

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mr. Robert E. Hollis
Division Administrator
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration, AZ Division
234 North Central Avenue, Suite 330
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Dear Mr. Hollis:

This is in response to your September 7, 2001 letter requesting Pima Agency's involvement as a cooperating agency with the Federal Highway Authority (FHWA) and Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to evaluate issues related to the proposed South Mountain Corridor Project, Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) preparation process.

Currently, the Ak Chin Indian Community and Gila River Indian Community are under the administrative jurisdiction of Pima Agency. The Ak Chin Indian Community is located in Pinal County, south of Maricopa, Arizona and will also need involvement through this agency's representation with the EIS process.

We accept your agency's request to be involved with the project as a cooperating Federal agency and represent the interests for the two communities for the proposed South Mountain Corridor, EIS development process.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. Peter B. Overton, Agency Environmental Specialist, at (520) 562-3326, Extension 267.

Sincerely,

Acting Superintendent



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

PIMA AGENCY

Post Office Box 8 - Sacaton, Arizona 85247

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Office of the Superintendent
Telephone Number (520) 562-3326

MAY 5 2005

Marie A. Deeb-Roberge, PE
Arizona Department of Transportation
Environmental & Enhancement Group
205 S. 17th Avenue, Room 213E, MD 619E
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Ms. Deeb-Roberge:

We have received your request for this agency to formally comment in reference to the draft "Table of Contents" to be utilized with the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), document for the proposed South Mountain Freeway Project, Maricopa County, Arizona.

After our meeting on April 20, 2005 with Gila River Indian Community (GRIC), Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHA) and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) staff at the Sacaton Agency, it appears that there is no certainty that the proposed highway project will be located on the Gila River Indian Community lands, nor has the Community officially approved of the project or involvement in the EIS process.

Although a proposed freeway alignment, on community lands, is realistic and could be developed into an alternative cited in the EIS, this agency can only provide limited comments, at this time, without a formal commitment approved by community government, landowners and without a specific proposed alternative, cited on community lands, so that impacts may be properly analyzed. Specifically, a highway corridor alignment that is officially acceptable by the community (includes a community governmental resolution document) for study and then incorporation in the draft and final EIS document as one of the proposed alternatives.

The agency has been approved to act as a "Cooperating Federal Agency" with FHA assuming the "Lead Federal Agency" role for the National Environmental Protection Act, National Environmental Policy Act, NEPA, (EIS), process. Therefore, this agency will provide assistance, when requested, with the EIS process and provide comments to your office and directly to FHA, when appropriate.

Per the requested questions identified in your letter, dated February 15, 2005, the agency submits the following comments:

1. We have received and reviewed the proposed table of contents for the draft EIS. The document appears to be very well written, adequately covers all sections required per NEPA regulations and is very appropriate for use with the draft and final EIS document. A section devoted entirely to the Gila River Indian Community participation, if approved, would be an excellent addition to the document and provide easier reading and located specific information regarding the community's possible participation with the planned project.
2. There is no apparent need for additional sections at this point. If the community approves a specific alignment in the future, legal descriptions and additional related information could be added to the GRIC section currently shown in the draft table of contents.
3. The agency has reviewed the draft timeframe chart received from ADOT and finds the target dates to be realistic and future event planning for the process to be very good.
4. The agency would like to have 10 copies of the draft EIS and 6 copies of the final EIS document and ROD, if possible.
5. The agency shall transmit a copy of this letter to the local FHA official for their information and NEPA files.

Temporarily, all further official correspondence to Pima Agency should be addressed to the Acting Superintendent, BIA, Pima Agency, Box 8, Sacaton, Arizona.

We appreciate your request for our agency to assist the State of Arizona-DOT and we are looking forward to continue working with your agency and FHA to assist the community with there needs as well as the major task of completing the NEPA compliance process for this very important project.

If you have any questions or need advice please contact Mr. Peter B. Overton, Agency Environmental Protection Specialist, at 520-562-3700, extension 257.

Sincerely,

Carol Matz
Acting Superintendent

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

AND

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

FOR

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND SECTION 4(f) EVALUATION FOR
SOUTH MOUNTAIN FREEWAY (LOOP 202) INTERSTATE 10 (PAPAGO FREEWAY)
TO
INTERSTATE 10 (MARICOPA FREEWAY)

FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NUMBER: NH-202-D(ADY)
ADOT PROJECT NUMBER: 202L MA 054 H5764 01L

JUNE 2012

NH-202-D(ADY)/ 202L MA 054 H5764 01L



THIS AGREEMENT is entered into the _____ day of _____, 2012, by and between the Bureau of Indian Affairs, (hereafter referred to as (BIA), the Arizona Department of Transportation, (hereafter referred to as ADOT), and the Federal Highway Administration (hereafter referred to as FHWA). This agreement was initiated pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR § 1501.6), which emphasize the importance of cooperation early in the Environmental Impact Statement process for the proposed action, Section 4(f) Evaluation for South Mountain Freeway (Loop 202) Interstate 10 (Papago Freeway) to Interstate 10 (Maricopa Freeway), Federal-aid Project Number: NH-202-D(ADY), ADOT Project Number: 202L MA 054 H5764 01L.

I. INTRODUCTION/ STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), the project sponsor, working in close consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the lead federal agency for the proposed action, is developing the Administrative Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed action. According to Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR § 1501.6), which emphasize the importance of cooperation early in the EIS process, upon request of the federal lead agency, other federal agencies, with jurisdiction by law or with special expertise on an environmental issue involved in the project, have the responsibility to be a cooperating agency. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has agreed to be a cooperating agency for the proposed action.

The lead agencies have determined that a major transportation facility is needed to address increases in population, housing, and employment projected in the Phoenix metropolitan area over the next 25 years. A major transportation facility is also needed to address projected increases in regional transportation demand and deficiencies in the regional transportation system capacity. The purpose of the proposed action—the South Mountain Freeway—is to address these transportation needs.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, and of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Section 4(f) Evaluation is being prepared. The proposed action is hereinafter referred to as “the Project”.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This agreement between the BIA, the FHWA, and ADOT is intended to avoid duplication of effort by the Parties to this agreement in the development of an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Project.

The Parties desire to cooperate, to streamline their review, to reduce duplication, and to satisfy the requirements of NEPA, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Endangered Species Act, and other applicable laws, by preparing a single EIS for the Project as permitted by NEPA.

The joint process will allow BIA, FHWA, and ADOT to fulfill other requirements under federal law, including informal or formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and consultation with relevant parties under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

II. AUTHORITY

The federal agency Parties enter into this agreement under the authority of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 to 4370f, the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality at 40 C.F.R. Part 1500 to 1508, FHWA’s regulations on lead agency and cooperating agency status in the NEPA process, 23 C.F.R. § 771.111(d), and Department of Interior regulations on lead agency and cooperating agency status in the NEPA process, 43 C.F.R. § 46.225.

Federal regulations and Department of the Interior policy provide that the BIA, FHWA, and ADOT shall cooperate in meeting Federal laws, so that one document will comply with all applicable laws (40 C.F.R. § 1506.2(c); 43 C.F.R. § 46.220).

III. TEAM MEMBERS

The primary points of contact for carrying out the provisions of this agreement are:

BIA:

Amy Heuslein, Regional Environmental Protection Officer
2600 N. Central Avenue, 4th Floor Mailroom
Phoenix, AZ 85004-3050
(602) 379-6750
Amy.Heuslein@bia.gov

FHWA:

Rebecca Swiecki, Environmental Coordinator
4000 N Central Ave. Suite 1500
Phoenix, AZ 85012
(602) 382-8979
Rebecca.Swiecki@dot.gov

ADOT:

Sabri P. Chaun Hill, Assistant State Engineer
1611 W. Jackson, Mail Drop EM01
Phoenix, AZ 85007
(602) 712-6268
SHill@azdot.gov

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. FHWA Responsibilities

1. Act as lead agency within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 1501.5 and 23 C.F.R. § 771.109.

- 2. Ensure that the EIS meets the requirements outlined in Council on Environmental Quality regulations at 40 C.F.R. §§ 1500 to 1508, and ensure that the EIS is in compliance with all applicable laws, policies, Executive Orders, and guidelines.
- 3. Participate in all phases of EIS preparation, including attending interagency coordination meetings, reviewing draft documents and public notices, and participating in public scoping and EIS public meetings and hearings.
- 4. Adhere to the schedule in Attachment 1 to the extent feasible.
- 5. Designate a representative(s) to serve as the day-to-day liaison or point of contact for the Project.
- 6. Identify the significant environmental issues, identify and evaluate Project alternatives that are technically and economically practical or feasible and meet the purposes and needs of the proposed action, and coordinate the decision process.
- 7. Review and approve the Draft EIS and Final EIS prior to its release to the public.
- 8. Receive and review all agency and public scoping comments, comments on the Draft EIS and the Final EIS, and assist where appropriate with preparing responses to comments.
- 9. Contribute to the maintenance of a comprehensive mailing list for distribution of Project information and NEPA documents.
- 10. Ensure that the cooperating agencies are consulted during the early stages of Project planning and are involved in the evaluation of environmental impacts, and development of recommendations for mitigation measures where impacts are unavoidable.
- 11. Ensure that all documents relative to the EIS are distributed to the cooperating agencies.
- 12. Prepare a Record of Decision for the FHWA decisions regarding the Project.
- 13. Prepare necessary notices for publication in the Federal Register, including Notice of Intent, Notice of Draft EIS Availability, Notice of Final EIS Availability, and Notice of Record of Decision.

- 14. Assist in maintenance of an administrative record for the EIS and the FHWA Record of Decision.

B. ADOT Responsibilities

- 1. Act as joint lead agency in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 139.
- 2. Prepare the EIS and other environmental review documents with the FHWA furnishing guidance, participating in the preparation, and independently evaluating the documents.
- 3. Participate in all phases of EIS preparation and the permitting process, including attending interagency coordination meetings, reviewing draft documents and public notices, and participating in public scoping and EIS public review meetings and hearings.
- 4. Adhere to the schedule in Attachment 1 to the extent feasible.
- 5. Designate a representative(s) to serve as the day-to-day liaison or point of contact for the Project.
- 6. Identify the significant environmental issues, identify and evaluate Project alternatives that are technically and economically practical or feasible and meet the purposes and needs of the proposed action, and participate in the decision process.
- 7. Review and approve the Draft EIS and Final EIS prior to its release to the public.
- 8. Receive and review all agency and public scoping comments, comments on the Draft EIS and the Final EIS, and prepare responses to comments.
- 9. Contribute and maintain a comprehensive mailing list for distribution of Project information and NEPA documents.
- 10. Ensure that the cooperating agencies are consulted during the early stages of Project planning and are involved in the evaluation of environmental impacts, and development of recommendations for mitigation measures where impacts are unavoidable.
- 11. Ensure that all documents relative to the EIS are distributed to the cooperating agencies.
- 12. Assist FHWA in the preparation of a Record of Decision for the FHWA decisions regarding the Project.

- 13. Assist in the preparation of necessary notices for publication in the Federal Register, including Notice of Intent, Notice of Draft EIS Availability, Notice of Final EIS Availability, and Notice of Record of Decision.
- 14. Maintain an administrative record for the EIS and the FHWA Record of Decision.
- 15. Construct the project in accordance with and incorporate all committed environmental impact mitigation measures listed in approved environmental review documents unless the State requests and receives written FHWA approval to modify or delete such mitigation features.

C. BIA Responsibilities. As a cooperating agency, the BIA will:

- 1. Act as a cooperating agency within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 1501.6 and 43 C.F.R. § 46.230.
- 2. Participate in the EIS process, including attending inter-agency coordination meetings, reviewing draft documents, and participating in the public scoping and EIS public review processes.
- 3. Designate a representative(s) to serve as the day-to-day liaison or point of contact for the Project.
- 4. Identify the significant environmental issues, particularly those that relate to the cooperating agency's special expertise or jurisdiction.
- 5. Articulate any special requirements (laws, regulations, policies, etc.) that need to be addressed in the EIS in order to be a usable document for BIA decisions regarding the project.
- 6. Maintain control of the administrative Draft EIS and not release or discuss portions of the document until the document has been released for public review.
- 7. Review agency and public scoping comments, comments on the Draft EIS and Final EIS, and assist where appropriate with preparing responses to comments.
- 8. Adhere to the schedule in Exhibit 1 to the extent feasible.
- 9. Contribute to a comprehensive mailing list for distribution of Project information and NEPA documents.

- 10. Make their respective decisions based on the EIS as permitted by applicable law and jurisdiction.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL PROVISIONS

A. Applicable Law

The Parties agree to comply with all applicable laws governing activities under this agreement.

B. Effect on Prior Agreements

There are no prior agreements among the Parties that this agreement would affect.

C. Term

This agreement will commence upon the date last signed and executed by the Parties, and will remain in effect until terminated in accordance with Part V.E. below.

D. Amendments

This agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties at the same organizational level as those that sign this agreement. Any such amendments will be incorporated by written instrument, executed and signed by all Parties, and will be effective as of the date they are signed and executed.

E. Termination

- 1. Any Party may terminate this agreement upon sixty (60) days written notice to the other Parties of their intention to do so.
- 2. This agreement shall terminate when no longer authorized by the U.S. Department of the Interior, by federal or state law, or if determined to be unenforceable by any court having jurisdiction over the Parties.

F. Severability

Should any portion of this agreement be determined to be illegal or unenforceable, the remainder of the agreement will continue in full force and effect, and any party may renegotiate the terms affected by the severance.

G. Confidentiality

Each agency will abide by the confidentiality requirements of its own laws and regulations with respect to determinations concerning and handling of proprietary

data and any other statutes, regulations, or directives concerning restricted access to records or information in any form.

H. Access to Records

Each agency will provide public access in accordance with its own rules.

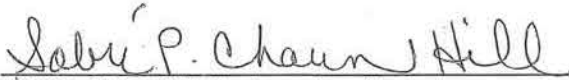
I. Information Sharing

Each agency will provide the others with courtesy copies of all regulation and policy changes that deal with common or pertinent issues.

J. Third Party Beneficiary Rights

The Parties do not intend to create in any other individual or entity the status of third party beneficiary, and this agreement shall not be construed so as to create such status. The rights, duties and obligations contained in this agreement operate only between the Parties to this agreement, and inure solely to the benefit of the Parties to this agreement.


VI. SIGNATURES


Sabri P. Chaun Hill, Assistant State Engineer
Arizona Department of Transportation

06/22/12


Rebecca Swiecki, Environmental Coordinator
Federal Highway Administration

6-26-12


Bryan Bowker, Regional Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs

9/12/12

EXHIBIT 1 -- DRAFT
ESTIMATED EIS REVIEW SCHEDULE FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT AND SECTION 4(F) EVALUATION FOR SOUTH MOUNTAIN
FREEWAY (LOOP 202) INTERSTATE 10 (PAPAGO FREEWAY) TO INTERSTATE 10
(MARICOPA FREEWAY)

Tasks	Target Dates
Finalize and Sign Memorandum of Understanding/Interagency Agreement	10 days after receipt
FHWA Provides Administrative Draft EIS to BIA for Review	Summer 2012
BIA Provides ADEIS Comments to FHWA	30 days after receipt of ADEIS
90 Day Public Comment Period on Draft EIS Ends	Winter 2012
FHWA Provides Preliminary Final EIS to BIA	Spring 2013
BIA Decisions Based on EIS - ROD	30 days after receipt of ROD



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Phoenix Field Office
21605 North 7th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85027

In reply refer to:
2800/2912 (210)
AZA-31292-01

June 13, 2005

Mr. Robert E. Hollis, Division Administrator
U. S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration
400 East Van Buren Street
One Arizona Center, Suite 410
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2264

Dear Mr. Hollis:

This letter is being sent in response to your letter dated May 27, 2005, concerning the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) being prepared for the South Mountain Corridor Project.

We have reviewed the map that was enclosed with your above dated letter and determined that there are no other lands that are either managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) or that the BLM maintains an interest, except for the lands at 67th Avenue and the Salt River, which are leased under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act to the City of Phoenix.

We accept your invitation to participate in coordination meetings, and agree to assist in consultation of relevant technical studies.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Andersen at (623) 580-5570.

Sincerely,

Teresa A. Raml
Field Manager



SEP 2001

United States Department of the Interior

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103
Phoenix, Arizona 85021-4951
Telephone: (602) 242-0210 FAX: (602) 242-2513



In Reply Refer To:

AESO/FA

September 17, 2001

202-D(ADY)

Mr. Robert E. Hollis
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Arizona Division
234 North Central Avenue, Suite 330
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Dear Mr. Hollis:

We have received your September 7, 2001, request for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to be a cooperating agency for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed South Mountain Corridor Project.

Due to heavy workloads and higher priority responsibilities, we unfortunately will not be able to participate as a cooperating agency for this project as requested. We will assist as necessary and appropriate in order to carry out other National Environmental Policy Act, Clean Water Act, and Endangered Species Act activities to assist you in the planning and implementation of this proposed project.

Sincerely,

David L. Harlow
Field Supervisor

W:\South Mountain Project.doc:GDM:jh



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Arizona Ecological Services Field Office
2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103
Phoenix, Arizona 85021-4951
Telephone: (602) 242-0210 Fax: (602) 242-2513



In Reply Refer To:

AESO/SE
2-21-02-I-005

October 29, 2001

Mary Viparina, P.E.
Project Manager
HDR Engineering, Inc.
2141 East Highland Avenue Ste. 250
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

RE: Biltmore Medical Mall Located at 2222 East Highland, Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Ms. Viparina,

This letter responds to your October 3, 2001, request for an inventory of threatened or endangered species, or those that are proposed to be listed as such under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), which may potentially occur in your project area (Maricopa County). The enclosed list may include candidate species as well. We hope the enclosed county list of species will be helpful. In future communications regarding this project, please refer to consultation number 2-21-02-I-005.

The enclosed list of the endangered, threatened, proposed, and candidate species includes all those potentially occurring anywhere in the county, or counties, where your project occurs. Please note that your project area may not necessarily include all or any of these species. The information provided includes general descriptions, habitat requirements, and other information for each species on the list. Also on the enclosed list is the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) citation for each list and is available at most public libraries. This information should assist you in determining which species may or may not occur within your project area. Site-specific surveys could also be helpful and may be needed to verify the presence or absence of a species or its habitat as required for the evaluation of proposed project-related impacts. Endangered and threatened species are protected by Federal law and must be considered prior to project development. If the action agency determines that listed species or critical habitat may be adversely affected by a federally funded, permitted, or authorized activity, the action agency must request formal consultation with the Service. If the action agency determines that the planned action may jeopardize a proposed species or destroy or adversely modify proposed critical habitat, the action agency must enter into a section 7 conference with the Service. Candidate species are those which are being considered for addition to the list of threatened or endangered species. Candidate species are those for which there is sufficient information to support a proposal for listing. Although candidate species have no legal protection under the Act, we recommend that they be considered in the planning process in the event that they become listed or proposed for listing prior to project completion.

2

If any proposed action occurs in or near areas with trees and shrubs growing along watercourses, known as riparian habitat, the Service recommends the protection of these areas. Riparian areas are critical to biological community diversity and provide linear corridors important to migratory species. In addition, if the project will result in the deposition of dredged or fill materials into waterways or excavation in waterways, we recommend you contact the Army Corps of Engineers which regulates these activities under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

The State of Arizona protects some plant and animal species not protected by Federal law. We recommend you contact the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Arizona Department of Agriculture for State-listed or sensitive species in your project area.

The Service appreciates your efforts to identify and avoid impacts to listed and sensitive species in your project area. If we may be of further assistance, please feel free to contact Tom Gatz (x240).

Sincerely,



David L. Harlow
Field Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: John Kennedy, Habitat Branch, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix, AZ
Governor, Gila River Indian Community, Sacaton, AZ (Attn: Biologist)

W:\Cathy Gordon\species list letters\South Mtn. Corridor Team HDR Engineering.wpd:cgg

LISTED, PROPOSED, AND CANDIDATE SPECIES FOR THE FOLLOWING COUNTY: MARICOPA
10/11/2001

1) LISTED TOTAL= 14

NAME: ARIZONA AGAVE AGAVE ARIZONICA
STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: No CFR: 49 FR 21055, 05-18-1984
DESCRIPTION: HAS ATTRACTIVE ROSETTES OF BRIGHT GREEN LEAVES WITH DARK MAHOGANY MARGINS. FLOWER: BORNE ON SUB-UMBELLATE INFLORESCENCES. ELEVATION RANGE: 3000-6000 FT.
COUNTIES: GILA, YAVAPAI, MARICOPA
HABITAT: TRANSITION ZONE BETWEEN OAK-JUNIPER WOODLAND & MOUNTAIN MAHOGANY-OAK SCRUB
SCATTERED CLONES IN NEW RIVER MOUNTAINS AND SIERRA ANCHA. USUALLY FOUND ON STEEP, ROCKY SLOPES. POSSIBLY MAZATAL MOUNTAINS. SHOULD BE LOOKED FOR WHEREVER THE RANGES OF Agave toumeyana var. bella AND Agave chrystantha OVERLAP.

NAME: ARIZONA CLIFFROSE PURSHIA SUBINTEGRA
STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: Yes CFR: 49 FR 22326 5-29-84
DESCRIPTION: EVERGREEN SHRUB OF THE ROSE FAMILY (ROSEACEAE). BARK PALE SHREDDY. YOUNG TWIGS WITH DENSE HAIRS. LEAVES 1-5 LOBES AND EDGES CURL DOWNWARD (REVOLUTE). FLOWERS: 5 WHITE OR YELLOW PETALS <0.5 INCH LONG. ELEVATION RANGE: <4000 FT.
COUNTIES: GRAHAM YAVAPAI MARICOPA MOHAVE
HABITAT: CHARACTERISTIC WHITE SOILS OF TERTIARY LIMESTONE LAKEBED DEPOSITS.
WHITE SOILS OF TERTIARY LIMESTONE LAKEBED DEPOSITS CAN BE SEEN FROM A DISTANCE.

NAME: ARIZONA HEDGEHOG CACTUS ECHINOCEREUS TRIGLOCHIDIATUS ARIZONICUS
STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: No CFR: 44 FR 61556,10-15-1979
DESCRIPTION: DARK GREEN CYLINDROID 2.5-12 INCHES TALL, 2-10 INCHES IN DIAMETER, SINGLE OR IN CLUSTERS. 1-3 GRAY OR PINKISH CENTRAL SPINES LARGEST DEFLEXED AND 5-11 SHORTER RADIAL SPINES. FLOWER: BRILLIANT RED, SIDE OF STEM IN APRIL- MAY ELEVATION RANGE: 3700-5200 FT.
COUNTIES: MARICOPA, GILA, PINAL
HABITAT: ECOTONE BETWEEN INTERIOR CHAPPARAL AND MADREAN EVERGREEN WOODLAND
OPEN SLOPES, IN NARROW CRACKS BETWEEN BOULDERS, AND IN UNDERSTORY OF SHRUBS. THIS VARIETY IS BELIEVED TO INTERGRADE AT THE EDGES OF ITS DISTRIBUTION WITH VARIETIES MELANCANTHUS AND NEOMEXICANUS CAUSING SOME CONFUSION IN IDENTIFICATION.

LISTED, PROPOSED, AND CANDIDATE SPECIES FOR THE FOLLOWING COUNTY: MARICOPA
10/11/2001

NAME: LESSER LONG-NOSED BAT LEPTONYCTERIS CURASOAE YERBABUENAE

STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: Yes CFR: 53 FR 38456, 09-30-88

DESCRIPTION: ELONGATED MUZZLE, SMALL LEAF NOSE, AND LONG TONGUE.
YELLOWISH BROWN OR GRAY ABOVE AND CINNAMON BROWN BELOW.
TAIL MINUTE AND APPEARS TO BE LACKING. EASILY DISTURBED. ELEVATION
RANGE: <6000 FT.

COUNTIES: COCHISE, GILA, GRAHAM, GREENLEE, MARICOPA, PIMA, PINAL, SANTA CRUZ, YAVAPAI

HABITAT: DESERT SCRUB HABITAT WITH AGAVE AND COLUMNAR CACTI PRESENT AS FOOD PLANTS

DAY ROOSTS IN CAVES AND ABANDONED TUNNELS. FORAGES AT NIGHT ON NECTAR, POLLEN, AND FRUIT OF PANICULATE AGAVES AND COLUMNAR CACTI. THIS SPECIES IS MIGRATORY AND IS PRESENT IN ARIZONA, USUALLY FROM APRIL TO SEPTMBER AND SOUTH OF THE BORDER THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR.

NAME: SONORAN PRONGHORN ANTILOCAPRA AMERICANA SONORIENSIS

STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: Yes CFR: 32 FR 4001, 03-11-67

DESCRIPTION: BUFF ON BACK AND WHITE BELOW, HOOFED WITH SLIGHTLY CURVED
BLACK HORNS HAVING A SINGLE PRONG. SMALLEST AND PALEST OF
THE PRONGHORN SUBSPECIES. ELEVATION
RANGE: 2000-4000 FT.

COUNTIES: PIMA, YUMA, MARICOPA

HABITAT: BROAD, INTERMOUNTAIN ALLUVIAL VALLEYS WITH CREOSOTE-BURSAGE & PALO VERDE-MIXED CACTI ASSOCIATIONS

TYPICALLY, BAJÁDAS ARE USED AS FAWNING AREAS AND SANDY DUNE AREAS PROVIDE FOOD SEASONALLY. HISTORIC RANGE WAS PROBABLY LARGER THAN EXISTS TODAY. THIS SUBSPECIES ALSO OCCURS IN MEXICO.

NAME: DESERT PUPFISH CYPRINODON MACULARIUS

STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB Yes RECOVERY PLAN: Yes CFR: 51 FR 10842, 03-31-1986

DESCRIPTION: SMALL (2 INCHES) SMOOTHLY ROUNDED BODY SHAPE WITH NARROW
VERTICAL BARS ON THE SIDES. BREEDING MALES BLUE ON HEAD AND
SIDES WITH YELLOW ON TAIL. FEMALES & JUVENILES TAN TO OLIVE
COLORED BACK AND SILVERY SIDES. ELEVATION
RANGE: <5000 FT.

COUNTIES: LA PAZ, PIMA, GRAHAM, MARICOPA, PINAL, YAVAPAI, SANTA CRUZ

HABITAT: SHALLOW SPRINGS, SMALL STREAMS, AND MARSHES. TOLERATES SALINE & WARM WATER

CRITICAL HABITAT INCLUDES QUITOBAQUITO SPRING, PIMA COUNTY, PORTIONS OF SAN FELIPE CREEK, CARRIZO WASH, AND FISH CREEK WASH, IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA. TWO SUBSPECIES ARE RECOGNIZED: DESERT PUPFISH (C. m. macularis) AND QUITOBAQUITO PUPFISH (C. m. eremus).

LISTED, PROPOSED, AND CANDIDATE SPECIES FOR THE FOLLOWING COUNTY: MARICOPA
10/11/2001

NAME: GILA TOPMINNOW POECILIOPSIS OCCIDENTALIS OCCIDENTALIS

STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: Yes CFR: 32 FR 4001, 03-11-1967

DESCRIPTION: SMALL (2 INCHES), GUPPY-LIKE, LIVE BEARING, LACKS DARK SPOTS ON
ITS FINS. BREEDING MALES ARE JET BLACK WITH YELLOW FINS. ELEVATION
RANGE: <4500 FT.

COUNTIES: GILA, PINAL, GRAHAM, YAVAPAI, SANTA CRUZ, PIMA, MARICOPA, LA PAZ

HABITAT: SMALL STREAMS, SPRINGS, AND CIENEGAS VEGETATED SHALLOWS

SPECIES HISTORICALLY OCCURRED IN BACKWATERS OF LARGE RIVERS BUT IS CURRENTLY ISOLATED TO SMALL STREAMS AND SPRINGS

NAME: RAZORBACK SUCKER XYRAUCHEN TEXANUS

STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB Yes RECOVERY PLAN: Yes CFR: 56 FR 54957 10-23-1991;
59 FR 13374, 03-21-1994

DESCRIPTION: LARGE (UP TO 3 FEET AND UP TO 6 POUNDS) LONG, HIGH SHARP-
EDGED KEEL-LIKE HUMP BEHIND THE HEAD. HEAD FLATTENED ON TOP.
OLIVE-BROWN ABOVE TO YELLOWISH BELOW. ELEVATION
RANGE: <6000 FT.

COUNTIES: GREENLEE, MOHAVE, PINAL, YAVAPAI, YUMA, LA PAZ, MARICOPA (REFUGIA), GILA, COCONINO, GRAHAM

HABITAT: RIVERINE & LACUSTRINE AREAS, GENERALLY NOT IN FAST MOVING WATER AND MAY USE BACKWATERS

SPECIES IS ALSO FOUND IN HORSESHOE RESERVOIR (MARICOPA COUNTY). CRITICAL HABITAT INCLUDES THE 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN OF THE RIVER THROUGH GRAND CANYON FROM CONFLUENCE WITH PARIA RIVER TO HOOVER DAM; HOOVER DAM TO DAVIS DAM; PARKER DAM TO IMPERIAL DAM. ALSO GILA RIVER FROM AZ/NM BORDER TO COOLIDGE DAM; AND SALT RIVER FROM HWY 60/SR 77 BRIDGE TO ROOSEVELT DAM; VERDE RIVER FROM FS BOUNDARY TO HORSESHOE LAKE.

NAME: BALD EAGLE HALIAEETUS LEUCOCEPHALUS

STATUS: THREATENED CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: Yes CFR: 60 FR 35999, 07-12-95

DESCRIPTION: LARGE, ADULTS HAVE WHITE HEAD AND TAIL. HEIGHT 28 - 38";
WINGSPAN 66 - 96". 1-4 YRS DARK WITH VARYING DEGREES OF
MOTTLED BROWN PLUMAGE. FEET BARE OF FEATHERS. ELEVATION
RANGE: VARIES FT.

COUNTIES: YUMA, LA PAZ, MOHAVE, YAVAPAI, MARICOPA, PINAL, COCONINO, NAVAJO, APACHE, SANTA CRUZ, PIMA, GILA, GRAHAM, COCHISE

HABITAT: LARGE TREES OR CLIFFS NEAR WATER (RESERVOIRS, RIVERS AND STREAMS) WITH ABUNDANT PREY

SOME BIRDS ARE NESTING RESIDENTS WHILE A LARGER NUMBER WINTERS ALONG RIVERS AND RESERVOIRS. AN ESTIMATED 200 TO 300 BIRDS WINTER IN ARIZONA. ONCE ENDANGERED (32 FR 4001, 03-11-1967; 43 FR 6233, 02-14-78) BECAUSE OF REPRODUCTIVE FAILURES FROM PESTICIDE POISONING AND LOSS OF HABITAT, THIS SPECIES WAS DOWN LISTED TO THREATENED ON AUGUST 11, 1995. ILLEGAL SHOOTING, DISTURBANCE, LOSS OF HABITAT CONTINUES TO BE A PROBLEM. SPECIES HAS BEEN PROPOSED FOR DELISTING (64 FR 36454) BUT STILL RECEIVES FULL PROTECTION UNDER ESA.

LISTED, PROPOSED, AND CANDIDATE SPECIES FOR THE FOLLOWING COUNTY: MARICOPA
10/11/2001

NAME: BROWN PELICAN PELECANUS OCCIDENTALIS CALIFORNICUS
STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: Yes CFR: 35 FR 16047, 10-13-70; 35
DESCRIPTION: LARGE DARK GRAY-BROWN WATER BIRD WITH A POUCH UNDERNEATH FR 18320, 12-02-70
LONG BILL AND WEBBED FEET. ADULTS HAVE A WHITE HEAD AND
NECK, BROWNISH BLACK BREAST, AND SILVER GRAY UPPER PARTS. ELEVATION
RANGE: VARIES FT.
COUNTIES: APACHE, COCHISE, COCONINO, GILA, GRAHAM, GREENLEE LA PAZ, MARICOPA, MOHAVE, NAVAJO, PIMA,
PINAL, SANTA CRUZ, YAVAPAI, YUMA
HABITAT: COASTAL LAND AND ISLANDS; ARIZONA LAKES AND RIVERS

SUBSPECIES IS FOUND ON PACIFIC COAST AND IS ENDANGERED DUE TO PESTICIDES. IT IS AN UNCOMMON
TRANSIENT IN ARIZONA ON MANY ARIZONA LAKES AND RIVERS. INDIVIDUALS WANDER UP FROM MEXICO IN
SUMMER AND FALL. NO BREEDING RECORDS IN ARIZONA.

NAME: CACTUS FERRUGINOUS PYGMY-OWL GLAUCIDIUM BRASILIANUM CACTORUM
STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: No CFR: 62 FR 10730, 3-10-97
DESCRIPTION: SMALL (APPROX. 7"), DIURNAL OWL REDDISH BROWN OVERALL WITH
CREAM-COLORED BELLY STREAKED WITH REDDISH BROWN. SOME
INDIVIDUALS ARE GRAYISH BROWN ELEVATION
RANGE: <4000 FT.
COUNTIES: MARICOPA, YUMA, SANTA CRUZ, GRAHAM, GREENLEE, PIMA, PINAL, GILA, COCHISE
HABITAT: MATURE COTTONWOOD/WILLOW, MESQUITE BOSQUES, AND SONORAN DESERTSCRUB

RANGE LIMIT IN ARIZONA IS FROM NEW RIVER (NORTH) TO GILA BOX (EAST) TO CABEZA PRIETA MOUNTAINS
(WEST). ONLY A FEW DOCUMENTED SITES WHERE THIS SPECIES PERSISTS ARE KNOWN. ADDITIONAL SURVEYS
ARE NEEDED. CRITICAL HABITAT WAS VACATED BY THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA
(9/19/01).

NAME: MEXICAN SPOTTED OWL STRIX OCCIDENTALIS LUCIDA
STATUS: THREATENED CRITICAL HAB Yes RECOVERY PLAN: Yes CFR: 56 FR 14678, 04-11-91; 66
DESCRIPTION: MEDIUM SIZED WITH DARK EYES AND NO EAR TUFTS. BROWNISH AND FR 8530, 2/1/01
HEAVILY SPOTTED WITH WHITE OR BEIGE. ELEVATION
RANGE: 4100-9000 FT.
COUNTIES: MOHAVE, COCONINO, NAVAJO, APACHE, YAVAPAI, GRAHAM, GREENLEE, COCHISE, SANTA CRUZ, PIMA,
PINAL, GILA, MARICOPA
HABITAT: NESTS IN CANYONS AND DENSE FORESTS WITH MULTI-LAYERED FOLIAGE STRUCTURE

GENERALLY NESTS IN OLDER FORESTS OF MIXED CONIFER OR PONDEROSA PINE/GAMBEL OAK TYPE, IN
CANYONS, AND USE VARIETY OF HABITATS FOR FORAGING. SITES WITH COOL MICROCLIMATES APPEAR TO BE
OF IMPORTANCE OR ARE PREFERRED. CRITICAL HABITAT WAS REMOVED IN 1998 BUT RE-PROPOSED IN JULY 2000
AND FINALIZED IN FEB 2001 FOR APACHE, COCHISE, COCONINO, GRAHAM, MOHAVE, PIMA COUNTIES; ALSO IN
NEW MEXICO, UTAH, AND COLORADO.

LISTED, PROPOSED, AND CANDIDATE SPECIES FOR THE FOLLOWING COUNTY: MARICOPA
10/11/2001

NAME: SOUTHWESTERN WILLOW FLYCATCHER EMPIDONAX TRAILLII EXTIMUS
STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: No CFR: 60 FR 10694, 02-27-95
DESCRIPTION: SMALL PASSERINE (ABOUT 6") GRAYISH-GREEN BACK AND WINGS,
WHITISH THROAT, LIGHT OLIVE-GRAY BREAST AND PALE YELLOWISH
BELLY. TWO WINGBARS VISIBLE. EYE-RING FAINT OR ABSENT. ELEVATION
RANGE: <8500 FT.
COUNTIES: YAVAPAI, GILA, MARICOPA, MOHAVE, COCONINO, NAVAJO, APACHE, PINAL, LA PAZ, GREENLEE, GRAHAM,
YUMA, PIMA, COCHISE, SANTA CRUZ
HABITAT: COTTONWOOD/WILLOW & TAMARISK VEGETATION COMMUNITIES ALONG RIVERS & STREAMS

MIGRATORY RIPARIAN OBLIGATE SPECIES THAT OCCUPIES BREEDING HABITAT FROM LATE APRIL TO
SEPTEMBER. DISTRIBUTION WITHIN ITS RANGE IS RESTRICTED TO RIPARIAN CORRIDORS. DIFFICULT TO
DISTINGUISH FROM OTHER MEMBERS OF THE EMPIDONAX COMPLEX BY SIGHT ALONE. TRAINING SEMINAR
REQUIRED FOR THOSE CONDUCTING FLYCATCHER SURVEYS. CRITICAL HABITAT WAS SET ASIDE BY THE 10TH
CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS (5/17/01).

NAME: YUMA CLAPPER RAIL RALLUS LONGIROSTRIS YUMANENSIS
STATUS: ENDANGERED CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: Yes CFR: 32 FR 4001, 03-11-67; 48
DESCRIPTION: WATER BIRD WITH LONG LEGS AND SHORT TAIL. LONG SLENDER FR 34182, 07-27-83
DECURVED BILL. MOTTLED BROWN ON GRAY ON ITS RUMP. FLANKS
AND UNDERSIDES ARE DARK GRAY WITH NARROW VERTICAL STRIPES ELEVATION
PRODUCING A BARRING EFFECT. RANGE: <4500 FT.
COUNTIES: YUMA, LA PAZ, MARICOPA, PINAL, MOHAVE
HABITAT: FRESH WATER AND BRACKISH MARSHES

SPECIES IS ASSOCIATED WITH DENSE EMERGENT RIPARIAN VEGETATION. REQUIRES WET SUBSTRATE
(MUDFLAT, SANDBAR) WITH DENSE HERBACEOUS OR WOODY VEGETATION FOR NESTING AND FORAGING.
CHANNELIZATION AND MARSH DEVELOPMENT ARE PRIMARY SOURCES OF HABITAT LOSS.

LISTED, PROPOSED, AND CANDIDATE SPECIES FOR THE FOLLOWING COUNTY: MARICOPA
10/11/2001

3) CANDIDATE TOTAL= 1

NAME: YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO COCCYZUS AMERICANUS
STATUS: CANDIDATE CRITICAL HAB No RECOVERY PLAN: No CFR: 66 FR 38611; 07-25-01
DESCRIPTION: MEDIUM-SIZED BIRD WITH A SLENDER, LONG-TAILED PROFILE, SLIGHTLY DOWN-CURVED BILL, WHICH IS BLUE-BLACK WITH YELLOW ON THE LOWER HALF OF THE BILL. PLUMAGE IS GRAYISH-BROWN ABOVE AND WHITE BELOW, WITH RUFOUS PRIMARY FLIGHT FEATHERS. ELEVATION RANGE: <6,500 FT.
COUNTIES: APACHE, COCHISE, COCONINO, GILA, GRAHAM, GREENLEE, LA PAZ, MARICOPA, MOHAVE, NAVAJO, PIMA, PINAL, SANTA CRUZ, YAVAPAI, YUMA
HABITAT: LARGE BLOCKS OF RIPARIAN WOODLANDS (COTTONWOOD, WILLOW, OR TAMARISK GALLERIES)
SPECIES WAS FOUND WARRANTED, BUT PRECLUDED FOR LISTING AS A DISTINCT VERTEBRATE POPULATION SEGMENT IN THE WESTERN U.S. ON JULY 25, 2001. THIS FINDING INDICATES THAT THE SERVICE HAS SUFFICIENT INFORMATION TO LIST THE BIRD, BUT OTHER, HIGHER PRIORITY LISTING ACTIONS PREVENT THE SERVICE FROM ADDRESSING THE LISTING OF THE CUCKOO AT THIS TIME.

Arizona Game and Fish Department Operating Manual
Section I: Wildlife, Habitat and the Environment
Chapter 2: Habitat and the Environment



12.1 Races, Rallies, Enduros Effective: 01-01-91

Department Policy: The Game and Fish Department will closely scrutinize and assist in regulation and control, where possible, of those activities involving all-terrain motor powered vehicles that may affect wildlife or create conflicts among competing users of the land resource.
Procedures: While recognizing a segment of the population accrues enjoyment from involvement in road/trail races, rallies, enduros, and similar events, organized or otherwise, the Department's primary concern is protection of wildlife resources and habitat.

Department employees are requested to be alert to such activities and inform management.
Where these activities involve public lands, the Department requests that the agency or group involved limit such activities primarily to washes and established roads and that the use of trails be minimal and confined to trails where no habitat damage will result. Further, the Department requests that it be notified of the planned activities and offered an opportunity to review the route, comment and advise on any effects that the activity may have on wildlife and its habitat with reference to the Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Compensation Policy and Procedure, and recommend alternate routes if considered necessary.

12.2 National Environmental Act Compliance Effective: 01-01-91

Department Policy: The Arizona Game and Fish Department will comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. This requires that every proposed Federal Aid (Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson) project be examined objectively to determine the effects it will have on the environment in accordance with NEPA in Federal Aid NEPA Guidelines. Further, the Department will comply with the objectives of NEPA on any other project or program that may have an effect on the environment. (Contact the Habitat Branch for procedures and guidelines for NEPA compliance.)

12.3 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Compensation Effective: 06-04-94

Department Policy: It shall be the policy of the Department to develop adequate compensation plans for actual or potential habitat losses resulting from land and water projects in accordance with State and Federal laws. Habitat compensation plans will seek compensation at a 100% level, where feasible, and will be developed using

habitat resource category designations. See Commission Policy A2.16.
Authority: The Director of the Arizona Game and Fish Department is authorized under A.R.S. Title 17-211, Subsection D, to perform the necessary administrative tasks required to manage the wildlife resources of the State of Arizona. Pursuant to those duties and in accordance with federal environmental laws and resource management acts, such as the National Environmental Policy Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and Endangered Species Act, the Director is further charged with cooperating in the determination of potential impacts to Arizona's wildlife resources resulting from federally funded land and water projects. In addition, a Commission M.O.U. assigns similar responsibilities for evaluating proposed projects on lands administered by the State Land Department. An integral part of this process is the development of adequate compensation measures aimed at eliminating or reducing project-associated impacts.

- Procedure: Criteria used to identify general compensation goals are as follows:
- A. Resource Category I.
- 1. Designation Criteria. Habitat in this category are of the highest value to Arizona wildlife species, and are unique and/or irreplaceable on a statewide or ecoregion basis.
 - 2. Compensation Goal. No loss of existing in-kind habitat value.
 - 3. Guideline. The Department will recommend that all potential losses of existing habitat values be prevented. Insignificant changes that would not result in adverse impacts to habitat values may be acceptable provided they will have no significant cumulative impact.
 - 4. Habitat Types. Habitat types associated with Resource Category I shall include, but not limited to the following examples:
 - a. Perennial Stream Habitats.
 - b. Westlands and Riparian habitats of at least one acre in size which are associated with perennial waters. Biotic communities included in this classification follow descriptions provided in Brown (1982) and Henderson and Minckley (1984).
 - c. Key utilization areas for species listed or proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as Threatened or Endangered and Endangered State Threatened Native Wildlife species.
- B. Resource Category II.
- 1. Designation Criteria. Habitats in this category are of high value for Arizona wildlife species and are



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relatively scarce or becoming scarce on a statewide or ecoregion basis.

2. **Compensation Goal.** No net loss of existing habitat value, while minimizing loss of in-kind value.
3. **Guideline.** The Department will recommend that all potential losses of Resource Category II habitat values be avoided or minimized. If significant losses are likely to occur, the Department will recommend alternatives to immediately rectify, reduce, or eliminate these losses over time.
4. **Habitat Types.** Habitat types associated with Resource Category II shall include, but not limited to, the following examples:
 - a. Key utilization areas for antelope and bighorn sheep.
 - b. Key utilization areas for Threatened and Candidate State Threatened Native Wildlife species, candidate species for federal listing as Threatened or Endangered (Categories 1 and 2).
 - c. Actual or potential reintroduction sites for species that are listed as Extirpated or Endangered on the State Threatened Native Wildlife list.
 - d. Blue ribbon fishing areas (i.e., Lee's Ferry and Becker Lake).
 - e. Isolated mountain ranges providing Subalpine-coniferous forest habitats (i.e., Pinaleno Mountains).
 - f. State and federally operated game preserves, refuges or wildlife areas.
 - g. Montane meadows.

C. Resource Category III.

1. **Designation Criteria.** Habitats in this category are of high to medium value for Arizona wildlife species, and are relatively abundant on a statewide basis.
2. **Mitigation Goal.** No net loss of habitat value.
3. **Guidelines.** The Department will recommend ways to minimize or avoid habitat losses. Anticipated losses will be compensated by replacement of habitat values in-kind, or by substitution of high value habitat types, or by increased management of replacement habitats, so that no net loss occurs.
4. **Habitat Types Involved.** Habitats in this category are of a natural, undisturbed condition or they involve bodies of water of economic importance and shall include, but not be limited to, the following examples:
 - a. Chihuahuahua, Great Basin, Mohave, and Sonoran Desert habitat types.
 - b. Desert-grasslands and Chaparral zones.
 - c. Oak and coniferous woodlands and coniferous forests.
 - d. Reservoir habitats.

D. Resource Category IV.

1. **Designation Criteria.** Habitats in this category are of medium to low value for Arizona wildlife species, due to proximity to urban developments or low productivity associated with these lands.
2. **Mitigation Goal.** Minimize loss of habitat value.
3. **Guideline.** The Department will recommend ways to avoid or minimize habitat losses. Should losses be unavoidable, the Department may make a recommendation for compensation, based on the significance of the loss.
4. **Habitat Types Involved.** Habitat types associated with Resource Category IV shall include, but not be limited to, the following examples:
 - a. Agricultural Lands.
 - b. Undeveloped urban areas (i.e., land proximal to waste water treatment facilities, municipal mountain preserves, and undeveloped lands in proximity to municipal and industrial areas).
 - c. Habitats exhibiting low wildlife productivity as a result of man's influence.

12.4 Land Protection Evaluation Process

Effective: 11-01-93

Stage List:

A. Proposal Submittal. Conservation Supervisor (Habitat Branch) receives all lands protection proposals on an open and continuous basis, whether they are generated internally or externally.

Responsibilities: Date stamp proposals on receipt; retain original proposals in files; send letters to proponents acknowledging receipt; and distribute proposals and relevant information from the lands files (e.g. previous protection proposals for the same general area) to the Proposal Screening Committee.

Time: 5 days from receipt for acknowledgement to proponent.

B. Proposal Screening Committee. Conservation Supervisor, chair; Development Branch Chief, Nongame Branch Chief, and Field Operations Coordinator.

Responsibilities: Screen proposals on a monthly basis to determine adequacy and appropriateness; return inadequate proposals to proponents for remedy; Conservation Supervisor prepares State 3 briefing and routes adequate proposal(s) to Assistant Director, Wildlife Management Division (WMD).

Time: Director's Office briefing presentation occurs the Tuesday immediately following the monthly meeting; return to proponent (RTP) or forwarding to Assistant Director, WMD, to occur within 5 days of monthly meeting.

C. Director's Office Briefing Presentation. Conservation Supervisor presents summary of which proposals were returned to proponents (and why they were returned) and which were routed for biological review.

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 800
 Phoenix, Arizona 85012-2946

Scott C. Mars
 HDR Engineering
 2141 East Highland Avenue
 Suite 250
 Phoenix, Arizona 85016-4736

June 14, 2002

Dear Mr. Mars:

This response is in regard to your letter dated May 30, 2002, concerning the proposed alignments of the South Mountain Freeway Corridor Project.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has general responsibility, nationwide, for implementing the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) and to review projects that may affect prime farmland and/or wetlands associated with agriculture. After reviewing the information provided, the following is noted:

1. The proposed project, if implemented as planned, will impact prime or unique farmland. Enclosed is for AD-1006, Farmland Conversion Impact rating form.
2. We do not see any immediate concerns or impacts that would directly affect wetland areas associated with agriculture.

Projects such as this require a corridor-type assessment. Without the final alignment, we cannot accurately assess the impacts to prime and unique farmland from your project. Please submit an AD-1006 and map for review when the final alignment for this project is selected.

Should you have questions, please feel free to contact Jeff Schmidt, Community Assistance Coordinator at 602.280.8818. Thank you for the chance to review the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Michael Somerville

MICHAEL SOMERVILLE
 State Conservationist

Cc:

Jim Briggs, Assistant State Conservationist, NRCS, Phoenix, Arizona
 Kristen Graham-Chaves, District Conservationist, NRCS, Phoenix, Arizona
 Jeff Schmidt, Community Assistance Coordinator, NRCS, Phoenix, Arizona

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

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United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
230 N. First Avenue, Suite 509
Phoenix, AZ 85003-1706

APR 19 2006

Scott Mars
HDR
3200 East Camelback, Suite #350
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Dear Mr. Mars:

In response to your request for interpretation of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) in regards to land that has "been committed to urban development," the following is provided:

As you are aware, land committed to urban development is not subject to the FPPA. The Act is implemented by regulations that can be found in Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 658.

In 7CFR658.2, the definition for "farmland" subject to the Act is as such:

"Farmland means prime or unique farmlands as defined in section 1540(c)(1) of the Act or farmland that is determined by the appropriate state or unit of local government agency or agencies with concurrence of the Secretary to be farmland of statewide or local importance. "Farmland" does not include land already in or committed to urban development or water storage. Farmland "already in" urban development or water storage includes all such land with a density of 30 structures per 40-acre area. Farmland already in urban development also includes lands identified as "urbanized area" (UA) on the Census Bureau Map, or as urban area mapped with a "tint overprint" on the USGS topographical maps, or as "urban-built-up" on the USDA Important Farmland Maps. Areas shown as white on the USDA Important Farmland Maps are not "farmland" and, therefore, are not subject to the Act. Farmland "committed to urban development or water storage" includes all such land that receives a combined score of 160 points or less from the land evaluation and site assessment criteria."

The only way to exempt lands from the Act are explained therein. A Comprehensive Land Use Plan that designates land to urban development, in itself, does not exempt such lands from the Act.

Your reference to 7CFR658.2(d), where comprehensive land use plans are mentioned, is still under the "definitions" section and is merely describing the phrase "State or local government policies or programs to protect farmland." This phrase is used in the actual site assessment process where subject projects are evaluated on form AD-1006. If a farmland protection program is part of a comprehensive land use plan, then those lands are given more points in the assessment process.

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The only other lands that might be exempt from the Act are described in 7CFR658.2(c)(2). This section describes federal programs that were "beyond the planning stage" on August 4, 1984.

We hope this written interpretation meets your needs. We are looking into ways to streamline Prime and Unique Farmland requests on very large corridor projects, such as your major road projects.

If you have any other questions and/or needs regarding the FPPA, please contact Steve Smarik, Environmental Specialist, at 602-280-8785.

Thank you for your interest in the proper administration of the Farmland Protection Policy Act.

ERIC BANKS
Assistant State Conservationist (FA Programs)



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Courthouse – Federal Building
230 N. First Avenue, Suite 509
Phoenix, Arizona 85003-1733
(602) 280-8801

APR 21 2009

Scott Mars, PE, REM
HDR Engineering, Inc.
3200 East Camelback Rd., Suite 350
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Re: South Mountain Transportation Corridor (SR202)

Dear Mr. Mars:

This response is in regard to your request for Prime/Unique Farmland determination that was hand delivered to our office on January 16, 2009. The NRCS was requested to evaluate nine alternative corridors for SR202.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has general responsibility, nationwide, for implementing the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) and to review projects that may affect prime, unique, or statewide important farmland and/or wetlands associated with agriculture. You submitted the required form NRCS-CPA-106 with parts I, III, and VI completed for all nine alternative corridors, W55, W71, W101WFR, W101CPR, W101EPR, W101WPR, W101CFR, W101EFR, and E1. NRCS has completed sections II, IV, and V. After reviewing the information provided, the following has been determined:

- 1- The weighted relative values of the soils were entered in Part V of the form. This value was determined by weighting the productivity of the soils (based on alfalfa) to the numbers of acres of each soil in the corridor. Prime Farmland soils will be affected in all nine alternative corridors. However, the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment score is 160 points or less for alternatives W55, W71, W101WPR, W101CPR, W101CFR, and E1. This renders these corridors as "lands already committed to urban development." As such, they are not considered "farmland" as defined by the Farmland Protection Policy Act. No further analysis or reporting is necessary for actions in these corridors.
- 2- The Land Evaluation and Site Assessment scores for the remaining corridors are:
W101WFR - 161 points
W101EPR - 162 points
W101EFR - 162 points
- 3- We do not see any immediate concerns or impacts that would directly affect wetland areas associated with agriculture.

Helping People Help the Land
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HDR
RECEIVED

APR 22 2009

PROJ: _____
FILE: _____
DIST.: _____

Since you have already analyzed alternative corridors, your only remaining requirement is to report what alternative is selected. This is documented on the bottom of the NRCS-CPA-106 forms that are being returned to you as an attachment to this letter.

Should you have questions, please feel free contact Stephen Smarik, Environmental Specialist at 602-280-8785. Thank you again for the opportunity to review the proposed project.

Sincerely,

DAVID L. MCKAY
State Conservationist

Enclosures

cc:
Corey Nelson, District Conservationist, NRCS, Avondale, Arizona
Stephen Smarik, Environmental Specialist, NRCS, Phoenix, Arizona

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRCS-CPA-106
(Rev. 1-91)

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)

1. Name of Project
South Mountain Transportation Corridor

2. Type of Project
EIS

3. Date of Land Evaluation Request
1/11/10

4. Sheet 1 of 3

5. Federal Agency Involved
Federal Highway Administration

6. County and State
Maricopa County, Arizona

PART II (To be completed by NRCS)

1. Date Request Received by NRCS
1/11/10

2. Person Completing Form
Steve Smarik

3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland?
(If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form.)

YES ☒ NO ☐

4. Acres Irrigated
267,295

Average Farm Size
302

5. Major Crop(s)
Alfalfa, Cotton, Grains, Vegetables

6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction
Acres: 267,295 % 4.5%

7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA
Acres: 190,182 % 4.5%

8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used
NA

9. Name of Local Site Assessment System
NA

10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS
2/3/10

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Alternative Corridor For Segment - Western Section

W59 W71 W101WFR W101CPR

A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly

504 578 789 763

B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services

C. Total Acres In Corridor

504 578 789 763

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information

A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland

504 578 789 763

B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland

C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted

27% 30% 44% 40%

D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value

25 25 25 35

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)

86 86 87 82

PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))

Maximum Points

1. Area in Nonurban Use

15 10 10 10 10

2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use

10 7 7 7 7

3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed

20 12 12 12 12

4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government

20 0 0 0 0

5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average

10 5 5 5 5

6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland

25 10 10 10 10

7. Availability Of Farm Support Services

5 3 3 3 3

8. On-Farm Investments

20 15 15 15 15

9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services

25 8 8 8 8

10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use

10 4 4 4 4

TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS

160 74 74 74 74

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)

100 86 86 87 82

Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)

160 74 74 74 74

TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)

260 160 160 161 156

1. Corridor Selected:

2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project:

3. Date Of Selection:

4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used?
YES ☐ NO ☐

5. Reason For Selection:

Signature of Person Completing this Part:

DATE

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRCS-CPA-106
(Rev. 1-91)

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)

1. Name of Project
South Mountain Transportation Corridor

2. Type of Project
EIS

3. Date of Land Evaluation Request
1/11/10

4. Sheet 2 of 3

5. Federal Agency Involved
Federal Highway Administration

6. County and State
Maricopa County, Arizona

PART II (To be completed by NRCS)

1. Date Request Received by NRCS
1/11/10

2. Person Completing Form
Steve Smarik

3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland?
(If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form.)

YES ☒ NO ☐

4. Acres Irrigated
267,295

Average Farm Size
302

5. Major Crop(s)
Alfalfa, Cotton, Grains, Vegetables

6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction
Acres: 267,295 % 4.5%

7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA
Acres: 190,892 % 3.2

8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used
NA

9. Name of Local Site Assessment System
NA

10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS
2/3/10

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Alternative Corridor For Segment - Western Section

W101EPR W101WPR W101CFR

A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly

807 813 787

B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services

C. Total Acres In Corridor

807 813 787

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information

A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland

807 813 787

B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland

C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted

42% 42% 41%

D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value

22 25 32

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)

88 86 84

PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))

Maximum Points

1. Area in Nonurban Use

15 10 10 10

2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use

10 7 7 7

3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed

20 12 12 12

4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government

20 0 0 0

5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average

10 5 5 5

6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland

25 10 10 10

7. Availability Of Farm Support Services

5 3 3 3

8. On-Farm Investments

20 15 15 15

9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services

25 8 8 8

10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use

10 4 4 4

TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS

160 74 74 74

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)

100 88 86 84

Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)

160 74 74 74

TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)

260 162 160 158

1. Corridor Selected:

2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project:

3. Date Of Selection:

4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used?
YES ☐ NO ☐

5. Reason For Selection:

Signature of Person Completing this Part:

DATE

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		3. Date of Land Evaluation Request	1/11/10	4. Sheet 3 of 3
1. Name of Project South Mountain Transportation Corridor		5. Federal Agency Involved Federal Highway Administration		
2. Type of Project EIS		6. County and State Maricopa County, Arizona		
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		1. Date Request Received by NRCS	2. Person Completing Form Steve Smarik	
3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form).		YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	4. Acres Irrigated 267,295	
5. Major Crop(s) Alfalfa, Cotton, Grains, Vegetables		6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction Acres: 267,295 % 4.5	7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: 190,782 % 4.5	
8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used NA		9. Name of Local Site Assessment System NA	10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS 2/3/10	
PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Alternative Corridor For Western & Eastern Sections		
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly		W101EFR	E1	
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services				
C. Total Acres In Corridor		783	150	
PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland		783	150	
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland				
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted		41%	07%	
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value		22	22	
PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)		88	89	
PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))		Maximum Points		
1. Area in Nonurban Use		15	10	7
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use		10	7	5
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed		20	12	0
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government		20	0	0
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average		10	5	0
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland		25	10	0
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services		5	3	0
8. On-Farm Investments		20	15	0
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services		25	8	0
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use		10	4	4
TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS		160	74	16
PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)				
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)		100	88	89
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)		160	74	16
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)		260	162	105
1. Corridor Selected:	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project:	3. Date Of Selection:	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used?	
			YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Reason For Selection:				

Signature of Person Completing this Part: _____ DATE _____

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor

CORRIDOR - TYPE SITE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The following criteria are to be used for projects that have a linear or corridor - type site configuration connecting two distant points, and crossing several different tracts of land. These include utility lines, highways, railroads, stream improvements, and flood control systems. Federal agencies are to assess the suitability of each corridor - type site or design alternative for protection as farmland along with the land evaluation information.

- (1) How much land is in nonurban use within a radius of 1.0 mile from where the project is intended?
More than 90 percent - 15 points
90 to 20 percent - 14 to 1 point(s)
Less than 20 percent - 0 points
- (2) How much of the perimeter of the site borders on land in nonurban use?
More than 90 percent - 10 points
90 to 20 percent - 9 to 1 point(s)
Less than 20 percent - 0 points
- (3) How much of the site has been farmed (managed for a scheduled harvest or timber activity) more than five of the last 10 years?
More than 90 percent - 20 points
90 to 20 percent - 19 to 1 point(s)
Less than 20 percent - 0 points
- (4) Is the site subject to state or unit of local government policies or programs to protect farmland or covered by private programs to protect farmland?
Site is protected - 20 points
Site is not protected - 0 points
- (5) Is the farm unit(s) containing the site (before the project) as large as the average - size farming unit in the County?
(Average farm sizes in each county are available from the NRCS field offices in each state. Data are from the latest available Census of Agriculture, Acreage or Farm Units in Operation with \$1,000 or more in sales.)
As large or larger - 10 points
Below average - deduct 1 point for each 5 percent below the average, down to 0 points if 50 percent or more below average - 9 to 0 points
- (6) If the site is chosen for the project, how much of the remaining land on the farm will become non-farmable because of interference with land patterns?
Acreage equal to more than 25 percent of acres directly converted by the project - 25 points
Acreage equal to between 25 and 5 percent of the acres directly converted by the project - 1 to 24 point(s)
Acreage equal to less than 5 percent of the acres directly converted by the project - 0 points
- (7) Does the site have available adequate supply of farm support services and markets, i.e., farm suppliers, equipment dealers, processing and storage facilities and farmer's markets?
All required services are available - 5 points
Some required services are available - 4 to 1 point(s)
No required services are available - 0 points
- (8) Does the site have substantial and well-maintained on-farm investments such as barns, other storage building, fruit trees and vines, field terraces, drainage, irrigation, waterways, or other soil and water conservation measures?
High amount of on-farm investment - 20 points
Moderate amount of on-farm investment - 19 to 1 point(s)
No on-farm investment - 0 points
- (9) Would the project at this site, by converting farmland to nonagricultural use, reduce the demand for farm support services so as to jeopardize the continued existence of these support services and thus, the viability of the farms remaining in the area?
Substantial reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted - 25 points
Some reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted - 1 to 24 point(s)
No significant reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted - 0 points
- (10) Is the kind and intensity of the proposed use of the site sufficiently incompatible with agriculture that it is likely to contribute to the eventual conversion of surrounding farmland to nonagricultural use?
Proposed project is incompatible to existing agricultural use of surrounding farmland - 10 points
Proposed project is tolerable to existing agricultural use of surrounding farmland - 9 to 1 point(s)
Proposed project is fully compatible with existing agricultural use of surrounding farmland - 0 points



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

December 11, 2009

Governor William R. Rhodes
Gila River Indian Community
Governance Center
P.O. Box 2138
Sacaton, AZ 85147

Dear Governor Rhodes:

On behalf of the people of Arizona, I want to express my enthusiastic support for the discussions that have occurred this week regarding potential partnership between the State and the Gila River Indian Community on the issue of development of the South Mountain Freeway.

I pledge the full engagement of the Arizona Department of Transportation in working with you to consider the opportunities that may exist with the economic development potential of this much-needed transportation corridor.

While there is much work still to be done regarding final alignment of the route, I am pleased to know that your team is part of the conversation and that there is a path forward for ongoing talks about how the Community might consider getting involved.

Please do not hesitate to call on me or my team if there is anything we can do to help further your consideration of this very critical regional project.

Sincerely,

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

1700 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007
602-542-4331 • FAX 602-542-7602



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HIGHWAYS DIVISION

206 South Seventeenth Avenue Phoenix, Arizona 85007

BRUCE BABBITT
Governor
CHARLES L. MILLER
Director

May 30, 1986

W.O. FORD
State Engineer

Cecil Antone
Gila River Indian Community
P. O. Box 398
Sacaton, Arizona 85247

Dear Cecil:

I would like to thank you and other Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) staff for providing Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) with GRIC Staff Access Desires to the Southeast and Southwest Loop and informing ADOT of GRIC access concerns.

The following is my understanding of GRIC access desires from our May 13, 1986 meeting:

INTERCHANGES AT
51st Avenue, 19th Avenue, 7th Avenue, 32nd Street, 40th Street, Kyrene, and McClintock Drive.

GRADE SEPARATIONS AT
48th Street and 56th Street

It is also my understanding that GRIC feels access via Interchanges at Kyrene and McClintock Drive as well as the Grade Separation at 56th Street is essential for their proposed development of the Memorial Air Park area.

GRIC staff also feels that it could help facilitate the purchase of land (allotment and tribal) that would be necessary for the McClintock interchange.

Please let me know if any of the above is incorrect.

Sincerely,

John L. Louis
Corridor Location Engineer
Urban Highway Section

JLL/la



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